Town of Lincoln

Budget Board Meeting

March 22, 2012

Present:

Maria Marcello Richard Foster Mike Babbitt Carl Brunetti

Claudette Lussier Bob Turner Domenic Ricci Paul DiDomenico

Absent:

William DiBiasio Linda Noble Hagop Jawharjian

Call to Order

The meeting began at 7:33 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes

The minutes of March 21st were distributed for review.

Richard Foster made a motion, seconded by Domenic Ricci, to approve the minutes of March 21st.

The minutes were approved by a vote of 7-0 with Maria Marcello abstaining because she was not present on March 21st.

Correspondence

There was no new correspondence.

Public Comment

There was no public comment or questions at the time.

Boards, Councils and Committees

Zoning Board

John Barr of the Zoning Board was present and noted that the Zoning Board tends to spend conservatively and rarely have emergency meetings.

Conservation Commission

Franco Alfieri of the Conservation Commission was present.

Mr. Alfieri asked whether funds that were not used in the current year could be carried over to the next year.

It was noted that funds could not be carried over and must be used in the budgeted fiscal year.

The Budget Board questioned if, based on spending so far this year, the Conservation Commission spends most of their funds in the spring. It was noted that they do spend most of their funds in the spring and summer, including the clean-up of the Butterfly Garden.

They do spend funds on things like commission education by way of a Land and Water Summit at URI as well as the preservation and beautification of open space areas in Town.

Park and Recreation Commission

Kevin Bryson of the Parks and Recreation Commission was present.

Mr. Bryson noted that the Parks and Recreation Commission was in favor of the improvements proposed for the coming year including improvements at Lime Acres and Quinnville Park. For Lime Acres there was a matching grant where the town paid \$400,000 and DEM paid \$200,000, which will complete work there as one of the last of the major parks that had not been renovated in recent years.

The work there will also include hooking up to the sewers in the new ADA compliant restrooms and there will be storage and a new picnic shelter as well as a new backstop for neighbor protection.

They will also replace and relocate the basketball court as well as improve the parking and roadway including fencing and site furnishings that will improve safety.

There have not been plans submitted yet for those park renovations, and it was noted that the Parks and Rec. Commission did not have a lot of input in these projects or the ones previously completed at Manville or Lonsdale.

At Quinnville, there will be a new merry-go-round, new chains and hardware, new sand and edging, timbers, trimming of the surrounding area, and resurfacing of the basketball court.

The Budget Board questioned how the specifications for new playgrounds were decided upon, and whether the town would be able to get a better deal if they do more than one location at once using the same vendor.

The Budget Board noted that they would be touring all Town Facilities on Saturday, March 31st and they recommended that the Parks and Recreation Commission submit any questions, concerns, or list of improvements to them so that they may review them in light of the tour.

Public Comment

There was no public comment or questions at the time.

Recess

Bob Turner made a motion, seconded by Mike Babbitt, that the Budget Board take a brief recess.

The Budget Board recessed and then reconvened.

Budget Review

Town Administrator's Proposed 2012-2013 Budget

There was no new information received from the Town Administrator in response to questions from the Budget Board regarding the proposed 2012-2013 budget.

The Budget Board began voting on the Town Administrator's Proposed 2012-2013 Budget as follows:

Department 4840 Probate Judge \$4,352

Richard Foster made a motion, seconded by Bob Turner, that the Probate Judge budget be recommended at \$4,352.

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Department 4850 Town Sergeant \$1,400

Richard Foster made a motion, seconded by Bob Turner, that the Town Sergeant budget be recommended at \$1,400.

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Department 4860 Board of Canvassers \$1,700

Richard Foster made a motion, seconded by Domenic Ricci, that the Board of Canvassers budget be recommended at \$1,,700.

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Department 4600 Budget Board \$2,250

Mike Babbitt made a motion, seconded by Domenic Ricci, that the Budget Board budget be recommended at \$2,250.

The Budget Board discussed the Recoding Secretary salary and whether the amount provided would be sufficient based upon the hours that the Budget Board had worked in the current season.

The Budget Board also discussed the possibility of putting funding in the budget to seek an opinion from an attorney regarding the use of school surplus.

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

The Budget Board discussed the purchase of a flag for the Committee Room in Town Hall.

Domenic Ricci made a motion, seconded by Mike Babbitt, to purchase a flag out of the Budget Board's current expense budget.

The motion passed by a vote of 7-1 with Bob Turner opposed.

Department 4870 Zoning Board of Review \$9,520

Richard Foster made a motion, seconded by Domenic Ricci, that the

Zoning Board of Review budget be recommended at \$9,520.

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Department 4880 Planning Board \$10,570

Richard Foster made a motion, seconded by Domenic Ricci, that the Planning Board budget be recommended at \$10,570.

The Budget Board discussed that there are a few new developments proposed in town, but that the Planning Board has been meeting less frequently due to less new building due to the economy.

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Department 4890 Board of Assessment Review \$2,390

Richard Foster made a motion, seconded by Domenic Ricci, that the Board of Assessment Review budget be recommended at \$2,,390.

It was noted that there is a full revaluation in the coming year and that based upon that there may be a higher number of assessment appeals.

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Department 4910 Tenant Board \$1,388

Richard Foster made a motion, seconded by Mike Babbitt, that the Tenant Board budget be recommended at \$1,388.

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Department 4920 Conservation Commission \$3,150

Richard Foster made a motion, seconded by Mike Babbitt, that the

Conservation Commission budget be recommended at \$3,150.

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Department 4940 Personnel Board \$1,800

Mike Babbitt made a motion, seconded by Domenic Ricci, that the

Personnel Board budget be recommended at \$1,800.

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Department 4960 Juvenile Hearing Board \$1,500

Richard Foster made a motion, seconded by Domenic Ricci, that the

Juvenile Hearing Board budget be recommended at \$1,500.

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Department 4970 Parks and Rec. Commission \$1,000

Richard Foster made a motion, seconded by Domenic Ricci, that the

Parks and Rec. Commission budget be recommended at \$1,000.

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Department 5200 Land Trust \$800

Mike Babbitt made a motion, seconded by Domenic Ricci, that the

Land Trust budget be recommended at \$800.

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Department 5300 Municipal Court \$21,628

Richard Foster made a motion, seconded by Mike Babbitt, that the Municipal Court budget be recommended at \$21,628.

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Department 4500 Grants and Contribution \$62,000

The Budget Board discussed whether Senior Services should be under the Human Services Account 4230 instead of under Grants and Contributions.

They will request more information as to what kind of grant it would be and whether it would be better applied in the operating budget.

Department 4950 Debt Service \$4,222,668

The Budget Board discussed the Sewer Division allocation of Principal and Interest, and will request more information about how the sewer fund ties into where it used to show in the operating budget.

Adjourn

Richard Foster made a motion, seconded by Domenic Ricci, to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm.